

THE
KAPPA
ALPHA

THETA

MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2008

Celebrate Summer!

- a new college chapter
- accomplished Thetas
- Fraternity news



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Notice: Because Kappa Alpha Theta is not an officially recognized student group at Harvard or Santa Clara University, these schools prohibit using "Harvard" or "Santa Clara" in any published reference to our Zeta Xi or Eta Lambda Chapters.

KAPPA ALPHA THETA MISSION STATEMENT

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW,
KAPPA ALPHA THETA EXISTS TO NURTURE
EACH MEMBER THROUGHOUT HER COLLEGE
AND ALUMNAE EXPERIENCE AND TO OFFER
LIFELONG OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL,
INTELLECTUAL, AND MORAL GROWTH
AS SHE MEETS THE HIGHER AND BROADER
DEMANDS OF MATURE LIFE.

FAITH, HOPE, & LOVE

My name is Lauren Butterbaugh, and I am currently completing my sixth and final year of pharmacy school at Butler University. My story is one of true faith, hope, and love.

In the summer of 2005, after my junior year, I was diagnosed with cancer, more specifically Hodgkin's lymphoma. After the reality sunk in, I knew that I needed my sisters more than ever. I wrote an e-mail and told them that I was scared, but that I knew I was going to battle this and come back to school in the fall. I kept them updated by e-mails that I called "Lauren Weekly." I cannot even begin to tell you about the outpouring of phone calls, letters, and packages. Thanks to my sisters' inspiring words, I was able to fight harder to gain my life back.

To show their love and support, three of my friends actually came to one of my chemotherapy treatments with me, and no words can ever describe what that meant to me.

When I returned to school, I thought people were going to look at me so differently, but they were there with open arms and made me feel like my life was normal again.

The chapter dedicated the winter formal in my honor, naming it the "Butter Ball." The wonderful ladies of the Gamma Chapter were such a big part of my life when I felt that every thing was out of my hands. They were the epitome of faith, hope, and love for me. It is a true honor for me to be a cancer survivor, and I am forever proud to be a Theta.

LAUREN BUTTERBAUGH
Γ/BUTLER

THETA IS A GIFT

College is a place where we come to learn. We will learn about a specific academic interest. We will learn a bit more about the real world. And we will learn about ourselves.

When I came to college four years ago, my parents help move me into the dorm, and then I put on a fearless face and sent them back home. But, in reality, I wasn't fearless. I was nervous.

A select number of people will come to college with everything figured out, including themselves. I

wasn't one of those few. I had previously succeeded in an environment that I was familiar and comfortable with. Now I was in a new place where things were unexpected; I was stuck with the Wizard of Oz, "I don't think we're in Kansas anymore" feeling.

Then I found Kappa Alpha Theta.

I remember while being recruited I felt very at ease with the women surrounding me and with the house. That feeling still carries on today.

Here at Theta, I can have so much fun and learn at the same time. I've learned from Heather, Margaret, Lizzie, Sarah, and Kylie a new reason for sending e-cards. I've learned from Julia, Lizzie, and Emily to raise my hand in law and politics class although I may be intimidated. I've learned that at Theta, the best ideas are brought to life, such as the evening Amanda and I ate cheesecake with sparkling grape juice while watching the *Friends* episode "The One with all the Cheesecakes."

In all seriousness, this fraternity and these women have done so much for me.

Here at Theta, I've been allowed to make mistakes and learn from them and have been applauded for my successes. And I wouldn't want any other women besides my sisters with me as I continue to learn more about myself. Because Theta is a gift and it is here that I have learned to always expect more.

For the Thetas who were always ready to make me smile when I had been gloomy; for the Thetas who have given me memories filled with love and laughter; for the Thetas who never stopped believing in me when I no longer believed in myself; I am in a lifetime of debt to you and will always remember what you have done for me.

I hope that no woman will ever take her membership and the history of our fraternity lightly and that the alumnae experience will be just as rich as the collegiate experience I've had.

KATIE EVANS
ΓTI/IOWA STATE

FOREVER FRIENDS

I loved the Winter 2007-08 issue of *The Magazine*, especially the article "Forever Friends." It really struck a nerve with me, as I often think of

myself as the person who has benefited most from my Theta friendships. In the seven cross-country moves I have made since graduating from college, there has not been a time when I didn't depend on my local Theta alumnae chapter to supply me with a fresh and exciting bunch of new friends! Luckily, I have been able to maintain friendships with many of these Thetas long after moving on to other communities. I can vouch for the fact that life-long Theta friends do not have to be only the ones you meet in college ... they can be Thetas whom you meet as an alumna as well.

The very same day that I read this article, I was speaking with a Theta friend who is in charge of contacting our local 50- and 75-year Thetas to invite them to Founders Day. She spoke to a 50-year Theta who said, "You know, I appreciate your invitation, but I haven't been to a Theta meeting in 50 years, and I don't think now is the appropriate time to start." Instead of insisting that she come, my friend just said that she understood and decided not to pursue the discussion. This made me very sad. This Theta has missed out on 50 years of wonderful memories, 50 years of building relationships, and 50 years of being part of a fine group of women. This is the one meeting she should come to! It is never too late to re-establish your link to Theta.

If you are waiting for the "right time" to join your local Theta alumnae chapter, you may be missing out on the very kinds of friendships that are mentioned in this article. Is there anyone who can say she has too many friends? What is this kind of friendship worth to you? What are you waiting for? It's as easy as making a phone call or checking your local chapter's website for membership information. The benefits of being a Theta truly do last a lifetime, but only if you choose to partake in them. Do yourself a favor this year and join your local Theta alumnae chapter. You'll be glad you did.

DINAH MCCLYMONDS
AO/OKLAHOMA
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE

Kappa Alpha Theta

The finest and most rewarding membership experience

Experience Grand Convention in a new way!

Our two Convention bloggers, each with a different perspective, have shared their thoughts and experiences throughout each day.

Even if you couldn't join us in Miami, you can still participate in Grand Convention and see how the event celebrates the very best of Kappa Alpha Theta.

Visit the Kappa Alpha Theta website's Grand Convention page to

- Follow along with each blogger's experiences in Miami
- View their uploaded photos
- Read their interviews of special Thetas
- Learn about major Convention announcements
- Add your own comments to each blog posting (*login required*)

Meet Your Grand Convention Bloggers



Joy Donovan Brandon

Mid-Cities Alumnae Chapter, President
College Chapter: AO/Oklahoma



Lindsey Creek

El/Westminster, Chapter President
Hometown: Bland, Mo.

• Your content suggestions and photos are highly encouraged! Please e-mail webmaster@kappaalphatheta.org •

www.kappaalphatheta.org

MEET US IN MIAMI

Even if you weren't able to actually meet us in Miami for Theta's Grand Convention (June 18 - 22), you can still be part of the fun. Log into www.kappaalphatheta.org, choose



Events, and then choose Grand Convention. You'll find links to photos, blogs, daily news, amendments to the Fraternity's laws, and much more!

WE'RE COMING BACK!

Kappa Alpha Theta will re-establish the Gamma Omega Chapter at Auburn University in Alabama in the spring of 2009. Check the Theta website—www.kappaalphatheta.org—for more information this summer.



FRATERNITY HONORED FOR ADVOCACY

Patton Boggs, LLP, an international law firm specializing in public policy; lobbying; and regulatory, litigation, business, and intellectual property law, has recognized Kappa Alpha Theta for having the best government relations

program in the Greek world! This recognition is based on support by individual Fraternity members of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act of 2007, the Capital Fraternal Caucus, and the Fraternity and Sorority Political Action Committee.

More information about these initiatives may be found online: in the What's New section of the Theta website, at www.fraternalcaucus.org, and at www.fratpac.org.

MISSING MAGAZINE?

If you misplaced the Spring 2008 issue of *The Magazine* before you had a chance to finish it, or your dog ate it, or your postal carrier failed to deliver it, you can read it online! After you've logged into the Fraternity's website, simply click *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* link on the left side of your screen.



In addition to giving you access to past issues (We're adding more all the time.), the magazine area also includes a bit of publication history as well as information about submission requirements.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS!

Congratulations to the following active alumnae and college chapters, which are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2008.

100 years

Alpha Lambda/Washington
Seattle Alumnae Chapter

60 years

Gamma Pi/Iowa State

25 years

Epsilon Mu/Princeton

TEAL TOES

September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, and Teal is the Ovarian Cancer Awareness color.

To help raise awareness of this silent killer. Paint your toenails teal and, when people ask about it, spread the word!

For more information, go to www.TealToes.org



WRITE TO US!

Do you have a comment about an article in this or any other issue of *The Magazine*? Do you know an accomplished Theta who would be a good subject for a profile article? Do you have a Theta issue on your mind?

Then let us hear from you! We are pleased to receive letters from our readers; we value your input. Correspondence by regular mail or e-mail may be sent to the editor. (See page 2 for addresses.)

THETA LOBBYIST REQUESTS YOUR INVOLVEMENT

By Rachel Anderson, A/M/Missouri

In April, I had the privilege to travel to Washington, DC, to represent Kappa Alpha Theta and participate in Capitol Hill visits on behalf of Greek Life. We spent two days in training learning about H.R. 643/S. 638, the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act, as well as H.R. 642, the College Fire Prevention Act. We spent one day lobbying on the Hill. While lobbying, I got to meet two Theta legislators—Congresswoman Mary Copeland Fallin, Beta Zeta/Oklahoma State, and Senator Claire McCaskill, Alpha Mu/Missouri.

The Collegiate Housing Infrastructure Act is important to

Thetas because it would allow for the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation to make grants to local chapters for Infrastructure improvements without losing its tax-exempt status. Members would be able to make tax-deductible donations to Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation that would be able to benefit your local chapter! Enacting this legislation could help make college more affordable and safer for students because alumnae would be more likely to donate towards these efforts.

Before attending the conference, I wasn't aware that one in eight college students live in Greek housing, which makes Greek housing the second largest landlord in the nation, after



BTU/Michigan State reunion, Feb. 2007

REUNIONS

REUNIONS ANNOUNCED

O/USC

A 120th birthday celebration for Omicron Chapter has been set for the evening of Friday, October 10, at the chapter facility. We are in need of class liaisons to help encourage as many alumnae as possible to attend the reunion/fundraiser. If you are willing to serve as a class liaison, contact Jennifer Barberie, jenb@preplanevents.com, 626-676-9952. Come home to Theta!

AA/WASHINGTON

Alpha Lambda Chapter at University of Washington celebrates 100 years of sisterhood in 2008! Get set for the biggest Theta celebration the Northwest has ever seen! Reconnect. Share your memories. Join the fun!

Please save the weekend of September 26-28. The festivities in Seattle include class reunions, Saturday UW football game, chapter tours, and the main event: a centennial luncheon on Sunday. Check out our blog: www.uwthetacentennial.blogspot.com. For more information, contact Shary Smith Cahill or Meghan Wagner, uwthetacentennial@gmail.com.

AM/MISSOURI

The 1967 new member class of the Alpha Mu Chapter at Missouri will hold a reunion the weekend October 24-26 in Columbia, Mo. For plans and information, contact Mary Lynne Chambers Bailey, reidbailey@sbcglobal.net, or Linda Doolin Ward, lin-daward@kc.rr.com.

BZ/OKLAHOMA STATE

The Beta Zeta new member class of 1988 will hold a 20-year reunion on Saturday, September 13, at the Atherton Hotel in Stillwater. Enjoy lunch, tour of the facility, cocktail hour, OSU vs. Missouri State football game. For more information, contact Jennifer Clark Tinsley, tinsleybedlam@comcast.net.

GO/NEW MEXICO

All members of the Gamma Omicron Chapter at New Mexico are invited to a reunion to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the founding of Gamma Omicron. The reunion will be held September 20, from 4:30 - 8:00 pm, at Becky Weh's home in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. Don't miss out! Send your contact information to Kathleen Burke Anthony, kanthony@earthlink.net, 505-843-6601.

PLANNING A REUNION?

If you are trying to locate Thetas from your chapter for a reunion, place a reunion notice in *The Magazine*! Send a brief notice to Reunions, *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Be sure to include a contact name, phone number, and e-mail address.

Notices for reunions to be held May through July must be received by January 31; for August through October, received by April 11; for November through January, received by July 11; and for February through April, by October 23.

university housing. So passing the Collegiate Housing Infrastructure Act would greatly benefit a large number of college students.

What can Thetas do to help? Register your support on the Capital Fraternal Caucus site, www.fraternalcaucus.org, and also use the site to send letters to elected officials from your area asking them to co-sponsor the bill. The site has a template and with a quick click it sends the letter for you to the correct members of Congress! The site also has a list of those currently supporting the bill. Also look for a Facebook application that will launch soon! And if you know any elected officials in Washington, DC, personally we would love for you to contact them to ask for their important support.



Rachel Anderson, AM/Missouri, Mary Copeland Fallin, BZ/Oklahoma State (photo left), and Senator Claire McCaskill, AM/Missouri, (photo right).

SNAPSHOTS

The Farmhouse Foundation has named **Andrea Geist, ΔH/Kansas State**, as its annual giving and communications coordinator. Geist will coordinate annual fund-raising activities for the Foundation, as well as manage communication materials and publications. The Foundation supports Farmhouse International Fraternity, a men's international agricultural-related fraternity.



In November of 1981, **Joan L. Webster**, a recent graduate of **Syracuse** and **Chi Chapter** alumna, was murdered as she was returning to Harvard's Graduate School of Design. Joan was completing her second year, with hopes of becoming an architect. Timothy Burke, the prosecutor in Webster's case, has just authored *The Paradise Files*, which chronicles Joan's disappearance and senseless murder.



Mary Deming Barber, ΔΔ/Whitman, has been named secretary of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). The PRSA is a national professional organization for the public relations and communications industries, serving 32,000 members.

Gisela "Gigi" Meyer Escoe, AT/Cincinnati, has been named University of Cincinnati's first vice-provost for assessment and student learning. She will focus on developing strategies to enhance the learning experience of undergraduates, keeping in line with UC's new strategic plan.

The Association of Fraternity Advisors honored **Anne Humphries Arseneau, BA/William and Mary**, with the Outstanding Volunteer Award for 2007. The award recognizes members of the Association who have exceeded expectations in their service to the organization and have been integral in implementing the strategic plan. Arseneau currently serves as the associate director of student activities at William and Mary.



Molly Corbett Broad, X/Syracuse, has been named president of the American Council on Education. Broad is the first woman to lead the organization, founded in 1918 as the nation's leading organization dedicated to higher education.

Robyn Benear Ewing, IT/Tulsa, has been named chief administrative officer at Williams, a company involved with natural gas. Ewing began at Williams more than 27 years ago and has served in a number of human resources positions, most recently as vice-president of human resources.

Maggie Bagwell Lacey, AH/Vanderbilt, recently launched *shopcerulean.com*, an online fashion retail site. The website is unique in that it offers not only products but also in-depth designer bios and tips on how to wear products, providing a complete experience for the client.



More than 40 members of **Alpha Chi Chapter** at **Purdue** came out to support three Theta members of the women's varsity soccer team. Pictured are **Alison Steele, Allison Swain, Julie Swain, Catie Neff, Danielle Ginther, Kristin Kirkdorffer, Emily Hackman, Whitney Fuller, Libby Larrison, Jenny Russell, Aubrey Beachy, Stephanie Losler, Beth Robinson, Heather Zinser, Casey Neff, Tricia Krombach, Maggie Wolfred, Megan Mitzner, Stacy Farkas, and Kristen Thomas.**



Allie Hooper, Andrea Barton, Kate Denney, Chelsea Coates and Samantha Harp, all AO/Oklahoma, celebrated at their White Coat Ceremony, which represents the transition into a career as a health care professional. All five are part of Oklahoma's Doctor of Pharmacy Program.



The women of **Epsilon Lambda Chapter** at **Dickinson** recently received Pennsylvania CASA's prestigious Voice award. "Over the past five years, Theta has just been extraordinary in support of the local and Pennsylvania CASA office," said Dennis S. Hockensmith, executive director of the Pennsylvania CASA office. "We've only given a handful of these awards in history, so this is a reflection of their extraordinary service." The Epsilon Lambda Chapter even dedicated one of their fall 2007 recruitment events to making blankets for the children of CASA.



Members of **Gamma Iota Chapter** at **Kentucky** performed their "Sweet Tooth" routine at Greek Sing 2008, the largest philanthropy event on campus. The women were named Overall Champions, defeating 25 other Greek organizations.

ALUMNAE



For their birthday celebration, Alicia Lee, ZO/Wake Forest; Allison Starr, ZT/Delaware; and Caitlin Kovalkoski, EA/Dickinson, traveled to *The*

Martha Stewart Show to celebrate Leap Year. All three Thetas, and the entire audience, were born on Feb. 29!



Dr. Haritha Bodduluri, BP/Duke; Missy Herrmann Eason, AH/Vanderbilt; and Dr. Kristina Collins, AE/Arizona State, at Vanderbilt's

medical residency match day. Bodduluri and Collins met in 2003 when recruited to attend the medical school as full merit scholarship recipients. Eason is director of the Candy Robinson Society, which fund-raises for the scholarships. The three have become close, and Bodduluri and Collins now report that they've landed two of the most sought-after residency placements in the country!



This Dallas-area group of 50-year Thetas began as a small group of seven who would lunch with each other every few weeks. The

group has grown to more than 30, who truly exemplify that Theta is for a lifetime.



AK/Louisiana State members Jenna Jordan, Paula Pedeaux and Claire Roberts cheered for the Tigers at the BCS National Championship game in New Orleans.



Four Delta Omicron alumnae from Alabama walked in Atlanta for the Breast Cancer 3 Day, a 60-mile

race to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research. Caroline Street Crenshaw, Amber Scharff Mock, Kerin Blair Guidry, and Gwen Dedrick McCoy walked to celebrate Mock's survival and two-year remission from breast cancer. McCoy said, "I am thankful to Theta for bringing us together as friends and even more thankful for [Amber's] positive outlook and cancer-free future!"



The Denver Alumnae Chapter hosted its signature fund-raising event, *Entertaining Colorado Style: Living a Beautiful Life* in fall 2007. Pictured are planning committee co-chair Jane Siekmeier, FY/Miami; honorary chair and former Lt. Governor of Colorado Jane Norton, BI/Colorado State; emcee Natalie Tysdal, II/Nebraska; and co-chair Scottie Iverson, AT/Cincinnati.



The Arlington Area Alumnae Chapter held its annual Christmas brunch in December 2007. Theta alumnae, actives and their family members participated in

an ornament exchange and brought toys to donate to Mission Arlington's Christmas Store.



The Westchester Alumnae Chapter kicked off their second spring together with a March membership meeting in Rye, NY, at which the chapter welcomed their two newest mem-

bers, Kate Gleason Madigan, Ω/Berkeley, and Elise Dillingham, EZ/Mississippi. Other spring activities for the chapter included a trip to Quinnipiac for Eta Xi's Kick for CASA philanthropy event, a Pampered Chef "Bring a Friend" fund-raiser, and Spring Tea at Caramoor.



Actives, alumnae and their families gathered for the Lubbock Recruitment Board's annual mother-daughter Christmas luncheon in Lubbock, Texas.

Not pictured
Members of the Columbus Alumnae Chapter captured the holiday spirit by donating toys to CASA.



Sterling Savings Bank has named **Heidi Bock Stanley**, $\Delta\Sigma$ /Washington State, president and chief executive officer. In 2006, Stanley was named one of the 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking by U.S. Banker Magazine.

Kathy Harris Milthorpe, $\Delta\Sigma$ /Texas A&M, has been selected as the first woman to oversee the 15-member Central Florida Sports Commission (CFSC) board of directors. The CFSC is a non-profit, private organization created to attract regional, national, and international events and sports related businesses and activities to central Florida. Milthorpe currently serves as an executive at the International Speedway Corp.

The National Book Critics Circle, a nonprofit association of more than 700 book reviewers interested in awarding quality writing, recently named **Mitzi Mallarian Brunsdale**, $\Gamma\Lambda$ /North Dakota, a voting member. Brunsdale has written and published seven books and more than 60 scholarly articles.

Mary Neller Jessup, $\text{B}\Pi$ /Michigan State, received the 2008 Sparrow Founders Award from Sparrow Health System in Lansing, Mich. The award, which is the highest honor given by Sparrow, is given to an outstanding volunteer and leader in the Sparrow and Lansing-area communities.

The New York Post has named **Caroline Bass**, $\Gamma\Omega$ /Connecticut, one of Manhattan's "wunderkinds." The honor was given to five highly successful industry leaders under the age of 25. Bass, 24, was named The Property Prodigy for her success in Manhattan's residential sales and rental industry.

Elizabeth Rehfus, $\text{N}/\text{Hanover}$, has been named president of the International Fluid Power Society (IFPS). The IFPS facilitates and promotes the advancement of technology and professionalism of the fluid power and motion control industry through awareness, education and certification. Rehfus is only the second female to be elected to this position.



Sally Allen Charles, $\Gamma\Sigma$ /Auburn, had the honor of meeting actress, author, and CASA supporter Victoria Rowell at the Association of Financial Professionals conference last fall. In Rowell's New York Times bestselling book, *The Women Who*

Raised Me, she thanks CASA volunteers and lists them as a resource for children in foster care.

Jody Johnson, BO/Iowa , of Allison I Johnson, a leading family law firm serving Collin County, Park Cities and North Dallas, has been named to The Best Lawyers in America 2008 and Best Lawyers in Dallas by *D Magazine* for the field of family law. Johnson has held a place on the Best Lawyers list since 2001, which is a huge honor as the list is based on a peer-review survey of more than 25,000 attorneys.

Founders Day



1 Carolyn Cole Gould, $\text{AO}/\text{Oklahoma}$; Laura Lynn Barber Porter, EE/Baylor ; and Sheila Johnson Cottle, $\text{D}/\text{Illinois}$, members of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Alumnae Chapter, celebrated Founders Day with several 50-year Thetas.



2 Women from Eta Xi Chapter at Quinnipiac drove 90 minutes to participate in the Westchester Alumnae Chapter's second annual Founders Day celebration in Ardsley, N.Y. Pictured are Becky Orsulak, Lea Aglione, advisor Monica Melchionni, BP/Duke , Tristen Sechi, and Lauren Viscione.



3 50-year Beta Epsilon Thetas from Oregon State reunited for a Founders Day celebration in January. Maggie Little Merchant, Sue Thompson Doherty, Peggy Colton Wood, Brenda Lasselle Pittmon, Barbara Moore Meadows and Lou Rosevear DeVito had a wonderful time in Portland, Ore., catching up and celebrating the founding of the Fraternity.



4 The newly chartered Hinsdale Alumnae Chapter joined with the Chicago West Suburban Alumnae Chapter for a very special Founders Day ceremony. A great time was had by all!



5 Members of the Delaware Alumnae Chapter and Zeta Tau Chapter at Delaware celebrated Founders Day together at the chapter facility.

Not pictured: Beth Boyles Strasser, Amy Edwards, Ann Moriarty Brennan, Peggy Broer Fothergill, and Amy Bonnell Young, all mid-1970s initiates of Gamma Upsilon Chapter at Miami, celebrated Founders Day in Columbus, Ohio.

Reunions



1 Seven Gamma Chis from Fresno State gathered to share dinner and reminisce about their favorite Theta memories. Pictured are (front) Kristen Smiley, Michelle Arakelian, Natalia Alvarez, (back) Brittnee Maxfield, Kim Hockert, Amanda Halvorson, Lisa Craig, and Monica Fettke.



2 (Front) Leesa Wilson-Goldmuntz, Anne Spiker Heller, Cindy Eickman Newcomer, Kellie Heffernan Heisel, Liz Sinnock Drake and Sally Mathews Neff. Betas from Indiana, gathered in January in Sanibel Island, Fla., to share dinner and stories.



3 Members of the 1960 initiation class of Alpha Chapter at DePauw met in Michigan in September to celebrate 47 years of sisterhood.



4 Members of the 1975 new member class of Alpha Sigma Chapter at Washington State gathered in Bellevue, Wash., in March. The reunion marked the first time many of the alumnae had seen each other in nearly 30 years!

5 Buff Chamard Harrington, Renate Reimerdes Tilson, Pat Reville Ling, Susan Quade Matthews, and Karen Johnson Clements, alumnae of Lambda Chapter at Vermont, celebrated 50 years of friendship at their January reunion in Carlsbad, Calif.



6 Five classes of Gamma Pi Chapter alumnae from Iowa State gathered in Minneapolis last fall for a reunion with an unbelievable turn out, including women from 22 states and two foreign countries. Since the event, 85 Gamma Pi alumnae have kept in touch and lent support as changes and events take place in each woman's life.



7 25 Alpha Rho Thetas at South Dakota gathered during homecoming for their 15-year-reunion. Weekend activities included lunch and tours at the chapter facility, Dakota Days parade, dinner with spouses, and a family potluck. Pictured are (front) Megan Donahoe Ripperda, Kayla Korkow Hiller, Kim Duncan Gullickson, Jodi Stover Rushing, Paulette Gilluth Miller, (back) Anne DeSutter Heuer, Jann Swanhurst Engelstad, Missy Baldwin Ragon, Trish Matson Buus, Deb Kilmisch Koski, Jody Kaarup Endres, Jenny Morgans Danke, Vicki Dybdahl Huitt. Not pictured: Mona Quartier Tschudy and Staci Kesling Stern.



8 Members of Alpha Gamma Chapter at Ohio State reunited for the Ohio State vs. Wisconsin football game in November.

Not pictured:
Shannon West Belzer, Leigh Gosney Bowler, Elizabeth Muller Buffler, Angela Cuddeback Cox, Kristen Coulter Eckert, Julie Brandt Mayfield, Betsy Boesen Minter, Donna Eischen Rother, Jeri Williams Towler, and Courtney Strong, the 1984 new member class of the Beta Zeta Chapter at Oklahoma State, celebrated their 20th reunion at the chapter house in Stillwater, Okla.

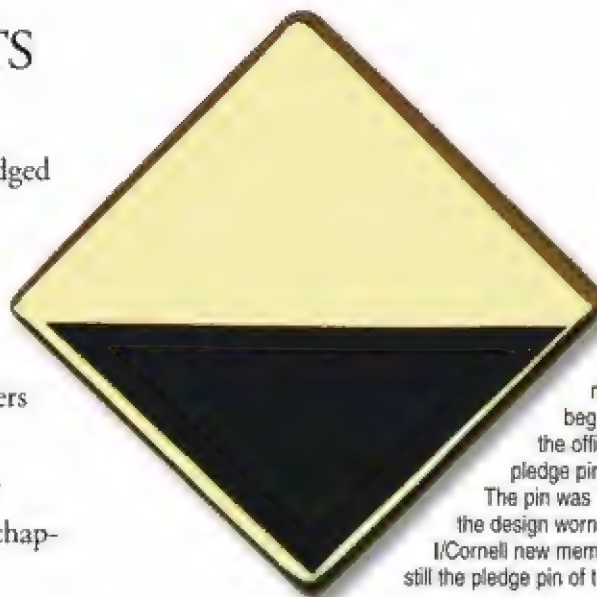
RECRUITMENT RESULTS

• 2007-2008 ACADEMIC YEAR •

Congratulations to the following chapters that pledged quota during the 2007–2008 academic year. Quota was achieved either in bid matching during formal recruitment or through continuous open bidding/continuous open recruitment (COB/COR).

The following information was provided via chapters submitting the Recruitment & Panhellenic Report.

Congratulations are also due to those chapters that pledged legacies; Kappa Alpha Theta encourages all chapters to pledge qualified legacies.



New members began wearing the official KΑΘ pledge pin in 1907. The pin was based on the design worn by I/Cornell new members and is still the pledge pin of today.

DISTRICT I

A/DePauw*
B/Indiana
Γ/Butler
Δ/Illinois
H/Michigan
N/Hanover*
Π/Albion
T/Northwestern
Ψ/Wisconsin
ΑΧ/Purdue
ΑΨ/Lawrence
ΒΠ/Michigan State
ΓΕ/Western Ontario
ΕΠ/Chicago
ΗΝ/Lake Forest**

DISTRICT II

Γ^Δ/Ohio Wesleyan
M/Allegheny
ΑΤ/Cincinnati**
ΒΦ/Penn State
ΓΘ/Carnegie-Mellon
ΓΥ/Miami
ΕΛ/Dickinson
ΕΠ/Bucknell
ΕΩ/Washington & Jefferson*
ΖΣ/Ohio Northern**
ΗΚ/John Carroll**
ΗΠ/Case Western Reserve

DISTRICT III

I/Cornell
X/Syracuse
ΑΕ/Brown

ΒΨ/McGill
ΓΖ/Connecticut*
ΕΤ/Yale*
ΕΥ/Columbia*
ΖΜ/MIT*
ΖΞ/~
ΗΞ/Quinnipiac*

DISTRICT IV

ΒΗ/Pennsylvania
ΒΛ/William & Mary**
ΒΡ/Duke
ΓΜ/Maryland
ΔΧ/Virginia
ΕΜ/Princeton
ΕΟ/Randolph Macon*
ΕΡ/Lehigh
ΕΨ/Richmond*
ΖΙ/Washington & Lee
ΖΤ/Delaware
ΖΧ/Johns Hopkins

DISTRICT V

ΑΗ/Vanderbilt
ΒΝ/Florida State
ΓΔ/Georgia
ΓΙ/Kentucky
ΔΖ/Emory*
ΔΘ/Florida
ΔΟ/Alabama
ΔΥ/Eastern Kentucky
ΔΦ/Clemson
ΖΗ/Wofford*
ΖΛ/College of Charleston
ΗΘ/Central Florida

DISTRICT VI

ΑΘ/Texas
ΑΟ/Oklahoma
ΑΦ/Tulane
ΒΖ/Oklahoma State
ΒΣ/Southern Methodist
ΓΤ/Tulsa
ΓΦ/Texas Tech
ΓΨ/Texas Christian
ΔΚ/Louisiana State
ΔΩ/Texas A&M
ΕΕ/Baylor
ΕΖ/Mississippi
ΖΥ/UT Dallas**

DISTRICT VII

Ο/USC
ΒΔ/Arizona
ΒΜ/Nevada
ΒΕ/UCLA
ΓΡ/UC Santa Barbara
ΓΣ/San Diego State
ΓΧ/Fresno State
ΔΕ/Arizona State
ΕΣ/UC Irvine
ΖΘ/Cal Poly
ΖΡ/UC San Diego*
ΖΦ/Pepperdine
ΖΩ/Loyola Marymount
ΗΙ/San Diego
ΗΜ/Occidental

DISTRICT VIII

Ω/UC Berkeley
Φ^Δ/Stanford
ΑΛ/Washington
ΑΝ/Montana
ΑΣ/Washington State
ΒΕ/Oregon State
ΒΘ/Idaho
ΒΧ/Alberta**
ΖΝ/UC Davis
ΗΗ/College of Idaho

DISTRICT IX

Κ/Kansas
Ρ/Nebraska*
Υ/Minnesota
ΑΜ/Missouri*
ΑΦ/North Dakota
ΑΡ/South Dakota
ΒΙ/Colorado
ΒΚ/Drake*
ΒΟ/Iowa
ΒΩ/Colorado College*
ΓΠ/Iowa State
ΔΗ/Kansas State
ΕΙ/Westminster*

* indicates chapters that pledged 60% or more of the Theta legacies participating in their respective schools' recruitment
** indicates chapters pledging 100% of Theta legacies participating in recruitment

Kites Flying High

The weekend of April 19 was an exciting time for the 78 charter members and two affiliates of the Eta Sigma Chapter at Chapman University. In addition to being initiated into Kappa Alpha Theta, with help from members of the Omicron Chapter at USC, their chapter was installed in a service conducted by Fraternity President Karen Albrecht Ledbetter, Gamma Tau/Tulsa.

Following the chartering service, a celebratory brunch was held at the Balboa Bay Club in Newport, Calif. Many family members, local alumnae, representatives from the IFC and Panhellenic executive councils, Greek organization presidents, and campus faculty and administration were in attendance to honor the new initiates.

Thank you to the Fraternity officers, educational leadership consultants, and staff members who served on the installation team: Karen Albrecht Ledbetter,

Gamma Tau/Tulsa, Fraternity president; Debbie Bornmann Allen, Delta Theta/Florida, Fraternity vice-president public relations; Angie Low Molina, Gamma Phi/Texas Tech, Fraternity music coordinator; Jennifer Broughton, Gamma/Butler, assistant director of chapter services; and Clare Edwards, Gamma Psi/TCU; Nicci Pannier, Delta Epsilon/Arizona State; Jenna Ghidelli, Gamma Chi/Fresno State; and Leslie Kreinberg, Beta Tau/Denison, all educational leadership consultants.

One of the oldest private universities in California and the largest independent university in Orange County, Chapman comprises seven schools and colleges, including an ABA- and AALS-accredited law school and a state-of-the-art film school. Theta joins Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Phi, Gamma Phi Beta, Delta Gamma, and Phi Sigma Sigma on Chapman's Panhellenic Council.

Welcome to
Kappa Alpha
Theta's
newest college
chapter,
Eta Sigma,
at Chapman
University in
Orange, Calif.



Debbie Allen, Fraternity vice-president public relations; Karen Ledbetter, Fraternity president; and Eta Sigma members proudly display the charter of Theta's newest chapter.



Thank You, Volunteers!

Permanent Alumnae Secretaries

A permanent alumnae secretary (PAS) maintains records of all initiated members of a given chapter. In this way, these officers of the Fraternity ensure that each alumna remains in touch with Theta.

Congratulations to these permanent alumnae secretaries who recently received awards for service.

5 YEARS

Lori Lodestro Allen	BΣ/SMU
Tori A. Burns	HI/San Diego
Melanie Simoneaux Goudelocke	ΔK/LSU
Michele Ann Grimmett	BΘ/Idaho
Christiane J. Hoffman	ZΩ/Loyola Marymount
Brynn S. Miller	ΓΨ/TCU
Stacie Pierce	Ψ/Wisconsin
Jeneva Watson Rose	ΛΞ/Oregon
Suzanne Thompson Schmick	AΣ/Washington State
Cynthia Shaffer Thoennes	AX/Purdue

10 YEARS

Laurie McGregor Connor	Γ ^Δ /Ohio Wesleyan
Sandra Willis Dawson	ΔΔ/Whitman
Andrea Stahlberg Grefsheim	ΑΠ/North Dakota
Jill Alban Haft	AT/Cincinnati
Melissa Zeppie Livingston	ZX/Johns Hopkins
Margaret Burnette Reid	Σ/Toronto

15 YEARS

Angela Hasner Garbot	EΦ/Chicago
Nancy Smith Grubb	ΔΛ/Utah
Kyle Hartvickson Handegard	ΓN/North Dakota State
Pamela Williams LaCrosse	ΔΘ/Florida

20 YEARS

Susan Green Hager	BZ/Oklahoma State
-------------------	-------------------

30 YEARS

Ellen Edith Warthen	ΔZ/Emory
---------------------	----------

35 YEARS

Catherine Hogan Love	ΓΣ/San Diego State
----------------------	--------------------

Chapters Needing Permanent Alumnae Secretaries

P/Albion
AΩ/Pittsburgh
BH/Pennsylvania
ΓΣ/San Diego State
EA/Dickinson
HΣ/Chapman

For more information about
or to volunteer for a
permanent alumnae secretary
position, please call

Lou Simpson, director of PAS,
248-642-2468 or
e-mail, LWetstein@msn.com



Any Theta who has attended a candle-pass or candle-lighting with her chapter can remember feeling the excitement in the air, wondering how many times the candle would go around the circle, and watching sisters' faces for a hint of who would blow it out. While not technically part of Theta ritual, the candle-pass is the way most Theta chapters celebrate and announce that a member has been lavaliered, pinned, or become engaged. While the main details remain the same, many chapters have their own special details that make the ceremony one of the most cherished of college chapter days — a special candle or flower-and-candle arrangement, a secret way to notify the chapter president (or, in decades past, the house mom or chaperone) that a candle-pass is required, a significant song to be sung during the ceremony, a certain time or place for it to occur.

Carolyn Watson Kruger, Alpha/DePauw, remembers of the early 1960s: "Everyone had to be in the house by 10 pm on weeknights or 11 pm on weekends ... a few minutes after the house/facility was 'closed,' the housemother would ring the dinner bell so all would assemble in the foyer. It was important to have this candle ceremony done fairly quickly after the house was closed because the man's fraternity would come to serenade the entire house as we assembled on the serenade porch above the front door ... really a special time for all!"

At the Beta Chapter at Indiana, Susan Siegert Mougalian remembers that by the late 1960s, "... curfew was done away with for upperclassmen on the weekends. Then it became more difficult to 'get the job done' because everyone wouldn't be available at the same time. The tradition did continue, but it wasn't regular and didn't include everyone just because of the circumstances."

The Beta Kappa Chapter at Drake was "... a-flutter with candle-passings in the month of September" 1986, says Mary Ellen Kutsenda Fitzsimonds. "I started the trio of September candle passings and chose a special poem to be read and provided a decorated candle to be passed. My roommate delivered the poem and candle to the chapter president. After Monday evening dinner, we gathered in the living room and formed a circle. The

president read the poem, lit the candle and we started singing as the candle was passed from sister to sister. The first round of the circle passed and then a second round started....

This evening, the candle started the third circle; as it got closer, I felt great excitement and when it reached me, I blew out the candle.

slipped my engagement ring on my finger and celebrated with my sisters! The next two Monday night dinners, we had two more candle passings for engaged sisters. It was quite a fun time for our chapter and a special way to share the exiting news with all at once!"

Candle-passes took place even at then-dating-averse Duke University in the mid-1980s, where, as one Beta Rho alumna reminisces, "We considered it a date when a guy said, 'Stop by the fraternity on Tuesday.'"

Unlike any of our formal rituals, a candle-pass is an almost impromptu event; it also reflects the differing cultures of each of our host campuses in ways that our formal ritual services cannot. In some college communities, receiving a fraternity man's lavalier (a charm of his fraternity's Greek letters) signifies an "exclusive relationship," whereas on other campuses, it indicates the first step toward engagement (though many campus legends point to the "lavalier curse," dooming any lavaliered couple to an imminent break-up). Lavaliering doesn't happen on many campuses, and even pinnings are no longer in vogue in many areas.

Candle-passes were not always the way engagements were celebrated by Thetas. As late as 1930, a five-pound box of chocolates was the device of



Following her candle-passing, Judith Beatch Brewster, (front, center) proudly shows her pin to her excited K/Kansas sisters, ca. 1950.

...THREE TIMES FOR ENGAGEMENT

by Jane Shepherd Dick, EM/Princeton

announcement for many college chapters. At the Eta Chapter at Michigan, the box of chocolates would be delivered to the "chaperon" at chapter dinner, who would open it to find the engaged couple's calling cards, thus announcing the engagement to the chapter (who would then happily share the chocolates). At the Chi Chapter at Syracuse, the significant box of chocolates took on the name "BHH" after the exclamation of the first Chi member so honored by a fiancé: "Bless his heart!" Senior breakfasts (Beta Epsilon/Oregon State and Phi/Stanford), commencement times (Alpha Xi/Oregon), chapter meetings (Lambda/Vermont), and house parties (Sigma/Toronto) were often the preferred venue for surprise engagement announcements. Phi had an ongoing joke during its senior breakfast announcements, annually reporting the engagement of a well-known campus "perennial bachelor" (each time to a different Theta); such levity reportedly ensuring that the breakfast would end without sentimental tears.

Though the lavaliering, pinning, and engagement traditions have changed through Theta's history and the histories of our college campuses, there is perhaps no other occasion that so touchingly demonstrates the companionship and love of Theta sisters in celebrating "life's high pinnacles of hope and happiness." ♦

Growing up, Kelly Corrigan received the same gift day after day. The present came from her father, George Corrigan, and although simple and unadorned, its value was immeasurable.

"Whenever I'd say, 'Hey, Dad,' my father would turn and look at me with a certain expression that said, 'I can't wait to hear what you're going to say next,'" recalls Corrigan, Epsilon Psi/Richmond. "I always knew that he loved me, but this particular look also told me that he liked me and, at that moment, he chose and preferred me."

Decades later, his ready smile and eager eyes conveyed an equally uplifting message. When George Corrigan's daughter was diagnosed with Stage III breast cancer in August 2004 at age 36, his expression told her, "I've always known you're a very special girl . . . and you can do this."

Throughout the course of surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, and recovery, Corrigan culled her father's words—along with enormous outpourings from family and friends—into "expressions" that likewise have lifted thousands of women. Her two websites, KellyCorrigan.com and CircusOfCancer.org, link visitors to personal journals and photos that chronicle her cancer experience, as well as insights on how to support a loved one through diagnosis and treatment. She's also authored a book, *The Middle Place*, which was published in January 2008 and landed on the *New York Times* bestseller list in March. (See sidebar.)

The book's muse, says Corrigan, was "Big George" who, months after his daughter's diagnosis, learned he had late-stage bladder cancer.

"The idea that, someday, I wouldn't be able to find my Dad in this world was truly new to me," Corrigan says, "and that feeling triggered the book."

"I just started writing stories from my childhood—both as a way to memorialize my Dad and to memorialize him."

Daughter, Sister, Wife

Corrigan's earliest memories tie to her parents' first and only home on Wooded Lane, located in the Philadelphia suburbs, where she grew up with two older brothers, GT and Booker. Her father's longtime, success-

Celebrating the Center

as mother,
daughter,
wife, columnist,
best-selling author,
& cancer survivor,
kelly corrigan
maximizes
"mid" life



By Jan Schmitz Mathew, Δ/Illinois

ful career selling ad space for women's magazines ranked second to his two true passions—family and lacrosse. George Corrigan was an all-American lacrosse player in 1953 and 1954 and has helped coach the sport at his daughter's alma mater, Radnor High School, since his retirement.

Like their father, Corrigan's brothers were skilled athletes. And although the "lacrosse gene" didn't pass from father to daughter, Corrigan credits the sport with leading her to the University of Richmond—where she earned a bache-

lor of science degree in English and Speech Communication—and, ultimately, to Theta.

"I often traveled to Virginia to watch my brothers' matches, and fell in love with that part of the country," says Corrigan, who now lives in Piedmont, Calif., just north of San Francisco. As a sophomore, she also became a charter member of the University of Richmond's Epsilon Psi chapter, founded in 1987. Through Theta, she cultivated "... a belief in the power of women and women's friendships."

"I was the chapter's first social chairman, and that was a perfect position for me," recalls Corrigan, who also served as vice-president of pledge education her senior year.

After graduation, Corrigan continued to follow familial footsteps which, this time, led overseas. "My older brother, GT, had traveled to Australia and, when I saw his pictures of Fiji and New Zealand, I knew I wanted to see the same places," she says.

Corrigan worked two years for United Way; bankrolled \$2,800, and spent the next thirteen months working and traveling throughout Australia and Nepal with Theta sister Tracy Tuttle.

"The experience totally cracked open my mindset," Corrigan recalls. "I went from thinking my choices were whether to live in Baltimore or Philadelphia to considering whether or not I should continue to be an American.

"I could talk all I wanted about how we're just a tiny part of a huge world but, until I saw it for myself, the words were completely empty."

Returning to her position with United Way, which she held for a total of ten years, was broadening as well. "United Way completely solidified my world view," Corrigan says. "Once you've worked in that world, and on behalf of under-served populations, it's never lost on you.

"At the same time, (the experience) has created a lot of internal conflict," she adds. "I'm constantly questioning how much (my husband) Ed and I should give away, or whether we're showing our daughters enough of the world. As a couple, we vacillate between being very strategic about our contributions and simply writing checks.

"When you internalize the fact that out of six billion people in the world, you're in the very top, it creates a lot of questions."

Mother, Cancer Survivor, Advocate, Author

Questions of an entirely different nature first punctuated Corrigan's life on August 2, 2004—the day she discovered, quite by accident, a large lump in her left breast. She recounts in *The Middle Place*: "When Edward is away, I often find that I've been talked

"What changed
(my cancer experience)
from terrifying and lonely
to a warm, tender,
and memorable time
were friends and family."

into the tub so the girls can pour too much shampoo on my bushy brown hair. This night is such a night, except on this night, as I brush past my breast to get some soap out of my eyes, I think I feel something hard, just there, under the skin. I touch it once, pressing lightly with the open palm of my hand, and then, after a flash of shock passes through me, I force my full attention to bathing the girls.

"As I dry myself off, I know I have to touch it again, just to be sure I'm wrong. But I'm not and so I start moving at a manic pace, directing the girls in that weird, strained way mothers do in movies when they find out a bomb is about to go off in their basement, right below where their children are blithely playing with their Legos."

By the end of that week, a mammogram and biopsy gave unsettling answers: The seven-centimeter mass was cancerous. Corrigan, mother of Georgia, then three years old, and Claire, then eighteen months, faced six months of chemotherapy, surgery, radiation, and hormone therapy.

Corrigan documented the regimen through words and photos and, as treatment progressed, so did her desire to share with others. "I was lying in bed and, all of the sudden, I opened my eyes and knew exactly what I'd do with all my photos—put them where they'd be available to everyone," she recalls. "The web is so egalitarian and, if a site is useful, people will find it." Corrigan's website, www.circusofcancer.org, currently draws about 6,000 new visitors every month, and feedback is overwhelming.

"People with cancer love the name, because the experience is like a cir-

cus," she says, referring to the website's moniker. "There's a performance element, a life-and-death element, and a strange land element. Things look different from outside the 'big top,' but once you step inside, everything changes.

"These analogies ring true with cancer patients."

The Circusofcancer website also imparts a key message from Corrigan: Get involved in others' crises. Web-page verbiage, which describes it as a "... how-to site to help you step right up when your friend has breast cancer," makes her mission crystal clear.

"What changed (my experience) from terrifying and lonely to a warm, tender, and memorable time were friends and family," says Corrigan. "While I really believe in medications, and witnessed some amazing medical feats, the qualitative difference is that I look back on those six months as a lovely time—a time that, frankly, I'd rather have had than not.

"It was great to see such a compassionate side to people. I had only been married four years and, to see my marriage go through this proved that I married a very good guy. And that's a nice thing to know."

Corrigan next weaved marriage, motherhood, childhood, friendships, and her cancer experience into *The Middle Place*, a book she began writing toward the end of treatment, and which was launched by her father's bladder cancer diagnosis in November 2004.

"Unlike the website, I didn't have an agenda with the book," she recalls. "I just started writing stories from my childhood and, ultimately, hoped to have something I could hand to my dad and be proud of."

Others, however, had grander plans. Through a series of connections, starting with her sister-in-law, Phoebe, Corrigan's stories landed with a publishing agent who expressed strong interest.

"After that, I made a rule that I had to sit in a chair and write for four hours, three times a week," says Corrigan, who also holds a masters degree in English Literature from San Francisco State University. "I'd drop the girls at preschool, go to a nearby café, and write. I realized that, not only did I like the feeling of 'having written,' I also



Kelly Corrigan calls that sliver of time when parenthood and childhood overlap as the "... richest, most insightful period of her life."

And if her best-selling book is any indication, I would add humorous, honest, inspiring, and liberating to her list of descriptors.

The Middle Place is Corrigan's story about growing up the first time, as George Corrigan's only daughter, and the second time, as a young wife and mother battling breast cancer and dealing with her father's bladder cancer diagnosis. Chapters shift from

girlhood to adulthood, and are packed with

anecdotes that can draw laughter and tears in the span of a page.

And although many memories and realities are uniquely hers, there's a universality to this book as well—something for every reader of Corrigan's approximate vintage to own. I, for instance, could picture myself in her prom dress: "The winner was a Gunne

Sax knockoff that borrowed some of its style from the Puritans and the rest from the Victorians." Descriptions of her relatively no-nonsense mother rang true as well: "...when my mom took a stand, which she often did, I don't remember her ever backing down. Her fortitude looks like love to me now, but at the time, I was sure my mom was trying to ruin my life."

At the heart of every chapter is George "Greenie" Corrigan. His humor, easy acceptance, and genuine delight in God's world and those who inhabited it, inspired his daughter's interpretation: "I could only deduce that the world was a safe place. In fact, according to my dad, the world was beyond safe—it had a sense of humor, it knew your name, it was waiting for you."

The Middle Place speaks to every woman who grew up as "daddy's girl;" who now claims roles as wife, mother, sister, or daughter; and who relishes the small moments, as well as the global insights, that spring from memories and intersecting personas.

And while you can easily devour it in a single read, as I did, *The Middle Place* is also a beautifully written treat you'll want to re-visit in portions. Either way, by the last page you'll feel you've made two great new friends: George and Kelly Corrigan.

You can bet you'll find yourself rooting for them as well.

Reviewed by Jan Mathew

liked writing. I found it interesting, challenging, and filled with variety."

The process—from concept to publication—spanned two years, and response to *The Middle Place* exceeded Corrigan's wildest expectations. "I was afraid that people who had actually lost a parent would find this book unbearable," she says. "But, interestingly, the nicest notes came from those who had suffered such a loss."

Equally gratifying were responses from scores of readers who counted "Big George" among their best buddies. "People who knew my dad decades ago wrote to tell me that I had really captured him in the book," Corrigan says. "I wasn't exaggerating—he's really all that, which made me feel great."

In the book's acknowledgements, she describes the moment that made every step worthwhile:

"After you have done all this, show the book to your parents. Your dad will say, 'Lovey, I'm blown away,' as he pats his heart, and your mom will make you cry by saying, 'Kelly, it's beautiful.'"

From "Middle" to the Next Place . . .

In the years since her cancer diagno-

sis, Corrigan has lived simultaneously in—and out—of the "big tent."

On the one hand, she still writes a regular column for the daily newspapers published by The Bay Area News Group, and describes herself as "a worrier."

"My fear of cancer waxes and wanes," she admits. "My prognosis is that I have a fifteen percent chance of recurrence in the first five years, and I'm three years into it. So in 2010, I'll feel like I can finally exhale."

But, on the flip side, life often resembles a three-ring circus. Between October 2005 and January 2008, she's appeared three times on NBC's *Today Show*—once with her father—holding her own with Katie Couric, Ann Curry, and Meredith Vieira. And in addition to San Francisco-area newspapers, her articles have appeared in publications including, *O, The Oprah Magazine*; *Glamour*; and *Good Housekeeping*. Among other links, her newest website, KellyCorrigan.com, posts an ambitious schedule of fund-raising events and book readings.

"I love the speaking engagements, because they give me an opportunity to be useful," she says. "I'd like to do even more."

Corrigan also has a new project

underway—a collection of essays on faith. "I'm fascinated by faith and am focusing on stories my parents told me, as well as stories I'll share with my daughters," Corrigan says. "For example, I attended my first Bar Mitzvah as a teenager and decided, for all the wrong reasons, that I wanted to become Jewish."

The best stories, however, continue to unfold in front of her eyes. She calls her father every day, and returns to Wooded Lane as often as possible to visit. And her daughters continually charm her with glimpses of the world through the eyes of a five- and six-year-old.

"I watched them at play the other day, and they were trying to catch fairies. They made little houses with twigs and cut up a slice of bread in small pieces and wrapped them in cellophane to make fairy bread."

Hopefully, she says, the look on her face told Georgia and Claire that she couldn't wait to see what they'd do next.

"I remind myself that these are the moments that count," Corrigan says. "It's a matter of balancing the mundane with constant expressions that say, 'I like you.'"

"I try to emulate my dad. He's a gregarious, committed, patient, and enthusiastic man—those are his gifts." ♦

Getting to the Root of the Problem

Taking a deeper look at the decision to close a college chapter and how alumnae can help prevent future closings

Can you imagine your college experience without Theta? The Fraternity probably played a large part in establishing the memories, lessons, and friends along the path that lead many to adulthood.

So it goes without saying that when the decision is made to close a chapter, it is never easy. It is a difficult situation for chapter members, but it is also a difficult situation for Fraternity officers, who know perhaps more than anyone the power and value Theta can have in a member's life. But, as is often the case, doing what is best is not always easy.

The Decision

The decision to close a chapter is not made due to one year of poor recruitment or a couple of semester's worth of lagging grades. No, it is one that is made either after a serious risk management issue or years of struggle with little hope of recovery, explains Amy Hayner Kates, Alpha Phi/Tulane, Fraternity vice-president college.

Thinking in the short-term, keeping struggling chapters around may not seem to be a big deal. Does it really hurt the Fraternity to allow this one chapter to sustain, although feebly? Yes, because over time, those individual struggling or risky chapters can put the Fraternity at jeopardy, financially, legally, and spiritually.

Beyond that, the risk management issues and substandard GPAs that haunt many weak chapters will damage the potentiality of the collegians, which defeats Theta's very founding principles of social, intellectual, and

moral growth.

Eliminating struggling chapters could be compared to pruning a tree. Early in its life, this maintenance helps to establish the young tree's structure and foundation. Theta was born of a desire to foster the development of collegians into well-rounded, intelligent women, and the founders were dedicated to that end. This is why the foundation of the Fraternity is so strong.

But as Kappa Alpha Theta matures and evolves generation after generation, it has a responsibility to maintain the foundation on which it set. By removing unhealthy branches, the rest of the tree is protected. And often, over time, a newer, stronger branch will

grow from where the limb was removed. Ending the negative stigma around a chapter will allow for healing both for the collegians and the Fraternity, and when this healing is over, the Fraternity is allowed a fresh start.

The Procedure

When a college chapter closes, a sense of loss permeates the Fraternity. A member of the Theta family has been lost, and regardless of the reasons for the closing, everyone feels a deep sadness. While each college chapter closing is unique, there are some common factors that usually contribute to a chapter's demise.

All college chapters are mentored and monitored by local alumnae volunteers and Fraternity officers and staff, who are alert to any changes in a chapter's viability. Chapter "vital signs" include chapter size (compared to other groups on campus), the chapter's ability to recruit new members successfully (taking quota and being at or near Panhellenic total), financial stability, condition of the facility (if applicable), risk management practices, and campus climate (decrease in enrollment, change in attitude toward the Greek system, decrease in number of women participating in recruitment, etc.).

Chapters deemed to be at risk receive help based on the areas that show "red flags" or serious concerns. Yet, despite concerted efforts by both the chapter and the Fraternity, some chapters still continue to struggle, usually in recruitment. Low membership numbers impact other areas of chapter life and programming. Scholarship usu-



By Laura Kassenbrock, Γ/Butler

ally suffers since the chapter cannot be as selective in membership selection. Many members must hold more than one office. The chapter must constantly seek new members through continuous open bidding/recruitment (COB/COR) when other groups on campus are finished with recruitment. The chapter's finances also suffer, and its budget cannot accommodate social events or chapter extras. The chapter may not be able to fill the chapter facility and meet their payments to the facility corporation.

Saddest of all, chapter members become burnt out from the burdens of chapter membership and responsibilities and find that membership is no longer fulfilling or fun.

The Reaction

When Fraternity officers alert collegians and alumnae that their chapter is closing, their responses are often very different. Collegians are aware that problems have existed or that an issue has occurred, and therefore in a way, they expect, or at least understand, the closing.

Alumnae likely have a wider variety of responses, ranging from confusion, sadness, relief, indifference, and, often, anger. Many alumnae believe the state of the current chapter is consistent with that of when they were college members. And while many chapters do sustain over time, the reality is, things change.

Alumnae often do not realize that sustaining a high level of quality takes a great deal of dedication on the part of the collegians as well as the alumnae. "The Delta Sigma Chapter went from a thriving chapter with outstanding scholarship and high membership numbers to the smallest chapter at Ball State University with the lowest cumulative GPA in a matter of five years," Delta Sigma advisor Molly Meyer Cotner, Delta Sigma/Ball State, said. "This is greatly due to the fact that they did not have a full advisory board, and they did not have a lot of alumnae support."

The New Policy

For years, alumnae would be notified only after the final decision had been made to close their chapter. Fraternity

officers began to realize that one of the complaints on the part of many alumnae was, "If you had told me my chapter was in trouble, I would have done something to help. Now it is too late." This is an extremely valid point, says Kates. If a more proactive approach is taken in supporting at-risk chapters, then those chapters, and the women's collegian experience, can be saved.

A more recent policy involves alerting alumnae early into a chapter's struggle. As a result, many alumnae have rekindled their relationship with Theta and saved their chapter's legacy. "When the letter went out to all Delta Sigmas about the status of the chapter, we mobilized. Our chapter now has the largest advisory board on campus and has formed an Alumnae Connection Committee to let Delta Sigmas know what is going on in the chapter and how they can donate their time and efforts," Cotner said. "The changes have made the collegians realize that Theta really is for a lifetime."

Alumnae often do not realize that sustaining a high level of quality takes a great deal of dedication on the part of the collegians as well as the alumnae.

These changes are being felt Fraternity-wide and are giving national officers a greater hope for Theta's future. "My hope is that alumnae will stay connected so they are aware of issues and can lend support not only to their initiation chapter, but to a college chapter nearby," said Mary Ellen Kutsenda Fitzsimonds, Beta Kappa/Drake Fraternity vice-president alumnae. "We have seen this new notification policy do wonders for chapters that are in need of alumnae support.

I hope our alumnae will be engaged before we reach this point, even if it is through a long-distance relationship of support."

The Future

As a result of the new policy, many alumnae are rediscovering that passing on the traditions and continuing Theta's legacy for new generations is not only rewarding for the collegians; it is fulfilling for them as well. "[the collegians] desperately need you," said College District President Jill McKenzie Bailey, Alpha Omicron/Oklahoma. "I have found that working directly with the collegians is one of things that makes Theta such a wonderful and rewarding experience."

In addition to strengthening Theta's college chapters, the new procedures are also strengthening alumnae chapters. But while saving a college chapter from closing is preferred, it is not always possible.

Yet that does not mean alumnae of closed chapters have to cut ties and abandon their relationship with the Fraternity. On the contrary, it is more important than ever to stay true to the promises made to Theta at initiation. There are a great many examples of college chapters that closed and reorganized with greater strength; their alumnae kept their faith, hope, and love for the Fraternity and were successful in rebuilding their chapter's legacy.

"Often times, an alumna's strongest connection is to the college chapter of initiation. The college chapter represents memories of the beginning of the member's Theta for a lifetime commitment," Fitzsimonds said. "As alumnae, we need to remember that our Fraternity is only as strong as the weakest link."

For many Thetas, this article might now strike a chord. Maybe your chapter is alive and well, but it is often a sense of complacency that prevents alumnae from seeking a deeper relationship with their college chapters. When was the last time you lent a hand? You know the impact that Theta made in your life for your four years as a collegian. Just imagine the impact Theta can have if you stay true to your promise for a lifetime. ♦

RUN4JR

by Stephanie Russell Holz, F/Butler

FINDING SOLACE IN SERVICE, AND INSPIRED BY HER NEPHEW, A THETA RACES FOR A CAUSE



Stephanie Russell Holz, F/Butler, completed the Miami Marathon in honor of her nephew, JR, who has Angelman Syndrome.

Being a member of Kappa Alpha Theta in the Gamma Chapter at Butler University was one of the most positive experiences in my life. Among the lessons I learned that I carry with me to this day is that the best thing one can do in the face of a difficult situation is to serve. One person might not be able to completely change a situation, but she can do her best to make things a little brighter. Theta's work with CASA taught me this, and I have applied it throughout my adult life.

After living a somewhat charmed life, my family was faced with a serious challenge. My dear nephew, John Russell (JR) Grover was diagnosed with Angelman Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder.

Until he was four months old, JR showed no signs that anything was wrong. Then he started having seizure-like episodes, and—as time progressed—he missed every milestone that a healthy child reaches. After several misdiagnoses and three years of physician visits and consultations, Angelman Syndrome was the undesired verdict. Neither I nor anyone else in my family had heard of this disorder, and the more research we did, the more devastated we became.

Angelman Syndrome is characterized by severe developmental delays, movement or balance disorders, lack of language, seizures, sleeping and eating problems, and hyperactivity. My nephew did not take his first unassisted steps until he was three years old, does not speak, has problem sleeping, and takes most of his nourishment through a feeding tube. In spite of all this, he has the happiest disposition of any child I have ever known. He brightens the lives of all those around him.

Since most people have never heard of it, I wanted to do something to help build awareness of Angelman Syndrome. I decided to run the 2008 Miami Marathon in JR's honor. I, along with my friend Casey Stevens, completed the 26.2 miles while raising nearly \$4,000 for the Angelman Syndrome Foundation. We wore shirts that sported JR's bright, smiling face and thought of him as each step pounded the pavement. When we thought we couldn't take one more step, we visualized all the challenges he had faced and obstacles he had overcome in his short life.

Most people do not understand the metaphor of the marathon. Until you have completed one, you have no idea what runs through your mind during those grueling hours. It is truly a mental battle.

On that day in January, from the moment I crossed the starting line, I had a very difficult time. During the subsequent four hours and 47 minutes, I thought of crying, of walking, of quitting. Every time one of those thoughts came into my mind, I thought of JR. I thought of him getting a spinal tap when he was just a baby. I thought of all the nights he had spent in the hospital. I thought of the braces that irritate his feet. I thought of my sister giving him medication through his feeding tube. These are things that JR has no control over. As a healthy adult, I am capable of doing things in my life that he will never be able to do. This is what kept me moving forward. I could not give up; however painful, I had to continue for him.

I am grateful to Kappa Alpha Theta for providing me with a foundation of service that has helped me through tough times while finding a positive outlet for my energy. If you would like to learn more about Angelman Syndrome, please visit www.angelman.org. You can also learn more about my "Run 4 JR" at www.firstgiving.com/run4JR.

In Her Own Words

Q&A With a Theta of Note

Jordan Veatch-Goffi, ΔΘI/Florida, launched Doce Vida, a line of athletic clothing designed to be both fashionable and functional, in 2005. Combining the experience she gained in retail merchandising at Gap with the athletic experience she gained as a triathlete and fitness buff, Veatch-Goffi hopes her clothes help women feel empowered and beautiful at the same time.



Q What is your proudest accomplishment?

A Being featured in the article 'Do What You Love' in the September 2007 issue of *O, The Oprah Magazine*. The article included eight women who chose to leave the corporate world to start their own businesses doing what they love. It was an honor to be a part of such an accomplished group of entrepreneurial women.

Q We understand you're an athlete. What lessons learned from training for and competing in races and triathlons can be applied to life?

A Setting goals, focus, and determination.

Q What profession other than yours would you like to attempt?

A I took a Myers-Briggs test in high school that said I have the perfect personality to be a lawyer. My mom went to law school during my freshman year at UF, so maybe I will attempt a career change in my 50s as well!

Q Each piece in your line of clothing is adorned with a motivational mantra. What motivates you?

A Positive thinking, interesting people, other cultures, staying in shape, and eating organic! I am naturally attracted to motivating and inspiring words, so I chose 11 mantras—like *adventurous, uninhibited, energetic, flexible, unique*—and have one sewn into each garment to help motivate and inspire my clients as they work out.

Q Do you have a personal mantra or motto? What is it?

A Of course! It's *doce vida*, which means "sweet life" in Portuguese and is the name of my business, Doce Vida Fitness. We

should all create our very own version of the sweet life and live it to the fullest.

Q We understand your background is Brazilian. Tell us something about Brazil or Brazilians that we probably don't know.

A Brazil is well-known for its beautiful women. What most people don't know is that what makes Brazilian women really shine is an ease and grace that comes from feeling good about themselves and their bodies. My clothes are designed to help every woman feel that way. Doce Vida instantly slims you!

Q If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

A Not a thing.... I believe that you should always be happy with yourself. If you are not, then make a change that moment so you can continue to live life positively.

Q If you were stranded on a desert island, what book would you want to have with you?

A I would have to bring two: my father's book, *Tournament Tough*, to remind me to hold onto my determination and focus, and my stepfather's book, *Profit for Life*, to remind me that caring about my clients, colleagues, and community is the key to Doce Vida's success.

Q What is your favorite article of clothing?

A My Doce Vida wardrobe. I could not stay in shape without it!

Q Who are your heroes?

A My parents. Growing up in a family business, I learned at an early age how to be entrepreneurial. My mom and dad have each taught me different skills that make me who I am today.

Q What do you value most in your friends?

A Their support. Every day I think about how lucky I am to have such amazing friends who offer love and support unconditionally.

Q What is your favorite Theta memory?

A I have so many wonderful memories of my days at Theta! If I had to choose one, it would be the day it all began ... Bid Day. I knew after round one that Theta was right for me and decided then that I would only accept a bid from Theta. If you believe, life always unfolds as it should. ♦

Editor's note: You can learn more about Jordan Veatch-Goffi and her Doce Vida line of clothing at www.docevidafitness.com.

Are You Missing Something?



Remember your college days? Remember the good friends, the laughter, the loyalty—everything that made Theta an incredible experience? Even if you've graduated from college, the support and friendship of Theta sisterhood doesn't have to end.

"Theta for a lifetime" isn't just a catch phrase. We are always Thetas, and the bond that we share with other Thetas is strong. After college, we often lose touch with our Fraternity, but joining an alumnae chapter (or helping to start a new one!) is a great way to reconnect.

Kappa Alpha Theta alumnae chapters comprise women of all ages and from college chapters all over the continent. And alumnae chapters offer a wide range of interesting activities! To find out if there's an alumnae chapter near you, simply go to www.kappalphatheta.org, choose *About Our Chapters*, and click on *Find a Chapter*. There are several search options.

Thetas in the following areas have expressed interest in forming alumnae chapters. If you would like more information, please contact Kyle Handegard, alumnae district officer extension (kyleccci@aol.com; 701-282-8652).

Alabama

Mobile
Montgomery
Tuscaloosa

British Columbia

Kelowna

California

Bakersfield
Imperial County
Palm Springs/
Coachella Valley
East Bay Berkeley
Modesto/Stockton

Colorado

Grand Junction

Florida

Melbourne
Panama City
Port St. Joe

Georgia

Columbus
Valdosta
Macon
Savannah

Iowa

Ames
Cedar Falls/
Waterloo

Indiana

Muncie
Evansville

Kentucky

Bowling Green

Maine

Kennebunk

Michigan

Ann Arbor
Livonia/Dearborn
Brighton

Mississippi

Greenville
Oxford
Starkville/Columbus

Montana

Red Lodge
Idaho Falls

North Carolina

Greensboro

North Dakota

Bismarck

New York

Albany
Orange County
Syracuse/Ithaca

Rhode Island

Providence
Richmond

South Carolina

Beaufort County
Hilton Head
Columbia

South Dakota

Pierre
Rapid City

Texas

Argyle
Georgetown
Odessa
Texarkana
Boerne/Fair Oaks

Virginia

Charlottesville
Roanoke
Harrisonburg

Washington

Bellingham/
Anacortes
Tacoma
Bellevue

Wisconsin

Madison

The year was 1933.

Frances Perkins became the United States Secretary of Labor, the first female member of the US Cabinet.	Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Supreme Court justice and member of Alpha Epsilon Phi, was born.	The first drive-in movie theatre opened in Camden, NJ.	Depression-era unemployment peaked at 25% of the US workforce.
Adolf Hitler was appointed Chancellor of Germany.	Ruth Graves Wakefield invented the chocolate chip cookie.	Helen Hull Jacobs, UC Berkeley, won the US Lawn Tennis Assoc. women's singles title.	and a gallon of gasoline cost 10 cents.

And Kappa Alpha Theta initiated 1,002 new members, among them these women, who officially celebrated 75 years in the Fraternity on Founders Day.

A/DEPAUW Miriam Birtz Defezzy Mary Woodard MacDonald Ruth Donnell Rogers	Y/MINNESOTA Karin Farrell Nelson Margaret Phillips Starks	AK/ADELPHI Elizabeth Bassett Helen Lucas Campbell Erna Pepper Stensby	AΦ/TULANE Dorothy White Edwards	BA/WILLIAM & MARY Margaret Wilson Kriete Dorothy Toulon Smith
B/INDIANA Jane Malcolm Fletchall	Φ/PACIFIC Mary Schwerin McDonald	AA/WASHINGTON Jane Wilkinson Bryant Ruth Hine Darling Betty Buchner McCabe Dorothy Pierce Nissler Mary Roberts Waltz	AX/PURDUE Jean Davis Hobson	BM/NEVADA Genevieve Wakefield Cummings Cornelia Arentz Rhodes
Γ/BUTLER Susan McGaughey Carrane Jean Southard Dykeman Marjorie Krull Treib Esther Hoover Zandt	X/SYRACUSE Jane Forbes Bugden Madeline Thompson Canup Katherine Mack Mowry Catherine Crosby Wilcock	AM/MISSOURI Mary Chenault Hershey Frances Byers Lamkin Helen Yeargain Sprinson Gertrude Quarles Starbuck Helena Neff Wilkening	AΨ/LAWRENCE Monica Cooney Maxine Schalk Graef Maxine French McIntosh	BN/FLORIDA STATE Rosalind Parker Collins Irene Edwards Peeples
H/MICHIGAN Ann Timmons Burgess Jean Hammer Pearson	Ψ/WISCONSIN Dorothea Schmidtman Bruckardt Virginia Weaver Russell	AΞ/OREGON Janet Howard Hall Evelyn Beebe Shirk	BB/RANDOLPH-MACON WOMEN'S COLLEGE Mary Phillips Lesh	BE/UCLA Henrietta Walter Barnes Audrey Smith Martin
I/CORNELL Margaret Weber Adams Ruth Bentley Price	Ω/UC BERKELEY Betty Hinsdale DwyerMargaret Fairlie Neal	AO/OKLAHOMA Mary Jane Carson Henry	BΓ/COLORADO STATE Florence Shellabarger Britton Doris Francis Brownlee	BO/IOWA Dorothy Spencer Anneberg Jean Simpson Cantwell Margaret Wilcox Waechter
Λ/VERMONT Adelaide Lockwood Cass Loraine Spaulding Dwyer Doris Wehrle Maeck Sylvia Jarvis Smith	AT/OHIO STATE Constance Corkwell Baldwin Mary Winans Bellingham Jane Wheeler Crossley Elizabeth Gill Kurtz Maria McCallum Welch Elizabeth Rose Williams	AΦ/NORTH DAKOTA Margaret Thompson Lehrkind Dorothy Wallace Paine	BΔ/ARIZONA Mary Otis Barber Dorothea Dawson Krudtschnitt Ruth Lombard Paul Ruth Bowers Solner	BΠ/MICHIGAN STATE Wilma Wagemvoord Cross Dorothy Balyeat Hartzell Evelyn Pickett Paxson Betty Qualman Spence
ΓΔ/OHIO WESLEYAN Harriet Crawford Ainsworth Dorothy Seiller Baldwin Janet Calvin Bradshaw Emmy Cable Green Barbara Gould Walbridge	AH/VANDERBILT Allene Cornelius Clarkson Kathryn Lynch Henderson Emily Davis Hoar	AP/SOUTH DAKOTA Meredith Stanley Dunn	BZ/OKLAHOMA STATE Jean Bullen Newman	BP/DUKE Mary Seed Cox Jean Wallauer Duncan Eleanor Barrett Montgomery Michaux Watkins Taylor
M/ALLEGHENY Marg Klingensmith Duglass Beulah Burch Keck Ann Chapman Stephens	AΘ/TEXAS Jane Tyler Calame Mathilde Donnell Greenwood Roberta Caffarelli Rife Meador Hamilton Veltmann	AΣ/WASHINGTON ST. Dorothy Blair Evelyn Cornelius Brooks Eileen Carlson Featherstone Frances Lynch Yeend	BΘ/IDAHO Mary Hartley Crowe Dorothy Preuss Lee Carol Campbell Renfrew	BΣ/SMU Mary McClung Bartlett
P/NEBRASKA Marguerite Cornell Anderson Carolyn Link McCabe	AI/WASHINGTON-ST. LOUIS Katherine Laurie Davis Virginia Hawkins Johnson	AT/CINCINNATI Jeanne Tatemam Hines Marybeth Wycoll	BI/COLORADO Dorothy Richardson Carter Mary W. Crum	BT/DENISON Mary K. Deckman Campbell Jane Claypool Robbins
T/NORTHWESTERN Shirley Larson Harris Shirley Richardson Taylor		AY/WASHBURN Phyllis Boyd Boyer Mary Linscott Duncan Mary Sue Ball Gilkeson Ruth Walker O'Riley Gladys Fawcett Stalker	BK/DRAKE Doris Mackaman Corrie Mary Lou Motz Dickinson Dorothy Pitkin Nourse Luvern Gray Shiffler Mildred Gallmeier Tinker	BΩ/COLORADO COLLEGE Margaret Kennedy Chamberlin

Coming in the Autumn 2008 issue



Even if you weren't able to *Meet Us in Miami* for
Grand Convention 2008,
you can still be part of the fun and excitement!

**Check out the
Autumn issue**
(arriving early October)
**for a Convention
wrap-up.**

- The Parade of Flags
- College Chapter Awards
- Alumnae Chapter Awards
- Changes to the Fraternity laws
- A new Grand Council
- The Foundation Pansy Patch



To view
Convention news,
photos, blogs, and more
right now, log into

www.kappaalphatheta.org

And don't miss...

- The 2008-09 educational leadership consultants
- Profiles and interviews
- Foundation scholars
- Reunions & Theta authors



Kappa Alpha Theta Badges

- 9602001 Small Alternating Diamond & Synthetic Sapphire Badge 10K \$515 14K \$570
- 9602011 Small Crown Diamond Badge 10K \$835 14K \$880
- 9502004 Large Crown Sapphire White Gold Badge 10K \$275 14K \$330
- 9302002 Small Alternating Pearl & Synthetic Ruby Badge 10K \$195 14K \$250
- 9202002 Large Crown Pearl Badge 10K \$265 14K \$320
- 9502006 Large Crown Emerald Badge 10K \$265 14K \$320
- 9102001 Standard Plain White Gold Badge 10K \$95 14K \$150

Official Jewelry Collection



To view our entire selection of badges and jewelry, please call to request a new brochure or visit our Theta Marketplace at www.kappaalphatheta.org

Prices shown are 10K. Sterling and 14K also available.

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